bacco which is normally above the Minimum Support Price;

(iii) Opening 3 additional auction platforms in Andhra Pradesh at Vellampalli, Podili and Kandukur.

Quasi-Judicial Authority to probe the charges of dumping newsprint from USA, Canada and Russai

2197. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an independent Quasi-Judicial Authority was set up by Government to probe the charges of dumping newsprint from USA, Canda and Russia at Prices far below the prices prevailing in their home markets;

(b) whether the Designated Authority has recommended imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty as per the established practice;

(c) whether the Designated Authority after the through enquiry as per the required procedure confirmed the charges of dumpings; and

(d) if so, when the recommendations were made and the action taken by the Government so far on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BALLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) The Designated Authority appointed under the Anti Dumping Act and the Rules made thereunder, is conducting investigations into the existence, degree and effect of alleged dumping of newsprint from USA, Canada and Russia. The Designated Authority has notified preliminary findings recommending imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties and the investigations are continuing. The findings were sent to Ministry of Finance on 11-6-1997 to take a view on the recommendations for imposition of provisional anti dumping duties.

Export of poor quality of Basmati

2198. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint from European Unions about the poor quality of Basmati parboiled exports and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that European Union import norms are increasingly being dictated by US Lobbies intending to keep Indian exporters out of competition from their EU markets; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the European Union, and if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) The European Commission has requested the Government of India to ensure that the quality of Indian basmati rice be maintained as some poor quality parboiled rice has been coming in the European Union market.

(b) and (c) The European Commission has introduced a cumulative recovery system, for a trial period of 1 year i.e. from 01.07.1997, for determining certain import duties on rice as a consequence of an agreement reached with the Government of United States of America in the form of exchange of letters on cereals and rice. India has made its position known to the European Union through the diplomatic channelss.

Review of export strategy

2199. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI GRUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ASSOCHAM has urged Government to review export strategy and evolve plans to boost exports:

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to diversify exports to many new markets in